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OTTAWA -- The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation expects to start the operation of its English News and Information Channel early in 1989, it was announced today by CBC President Pierre Juneau.

At the same time, the President announced that the Corporation's Board of Directors has decided to apply for a licence to operate a French-language service comparable to the licensed English All News service.

Today's announcement follows the statement by the Minister of Communications, the Honourable Flora MacDonald, that the Governor-in-Council has reviewed and accepted in principle CBC's licence to operate a 24-hour-a-day English All News service and has endorsed the CBC's commitment to apply for a French service.

"I am happy that the Government has come to the conclusion that such services are needed in Canada and that the CBC is the proper organization to provide such services," said Mr. Juneau.

In September, the Corporation responded to concerns raised earlier this year by the Minister of Communications about the CBC's proposed News and Information Channel.

Regarding private sector involvement, the CBC advised the Minister that it is entering into various partnerships and contractual relationships with private-sector stations, wire services, producers, publishing organizations and networks.

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